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6 July 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

VIA : Chief, Foreign Intelligence *GW*

SUBJECT : The Clandestine Fieldcraft Activities Course

REFERENCE : Memorandum from Director of Training to Chief, FI, dated 29 June 1953, subject, "The CFA Course"

AT-2228

1. In reviewing the requirements for the Clandestine Fieldcraft Activities course, FI wishes to state its recognition of the general value of this course for the Clandestine Services, and of the considerable effort to which TR(S) has gone to produce a program which is both realistic and effective. Students who have participated thus far in the course, have, without exception, commented that it is highly effective.

2. This recognition of the value of the course seems to be contradicted by the current major reduction in requirements for clandestine fieldcraft training. This reduction is caused by the general dearth of personnel available within the Area Divisions to afford participation in this four week program. This is further complicated by the conflict with vacation schedules and the fact that those persons most needful of this training are currently in the midst of their intensive operational season. The Division Training Officers have stated that this situation will exist for the next few months, after which, all other factors being equal, registration for the CFA will increase. Registration of FI students has been low for the additional reason that apparently the applicability of the course to FI operations has not been evident to all Branch Chiefs.

3. FI takes the position that the CFA is valuable and necessary to all FI field and headquarters case officers who are or will soon be responsible for the planning, direction, conduct, and support operations, and equally to those responsible for the development of stay behind operational assets in various parts of the world. The responsibility of FI case officers includes all aspects of such operations; they should therefore acquire sufficient familiarization with related clandestine fieldcraft techniques to discharge their duties in a highly competent manner. This familiarization would include comprehension of clandestine fieldcraft problems with which their agents will be confronted. FI therefore considers a short familiarization course a prerequisite for all case officers dealing with stay behind operations.

4. Recognizing the operational value of the course as well as the current limitations in registration, FI submits the following proposals:

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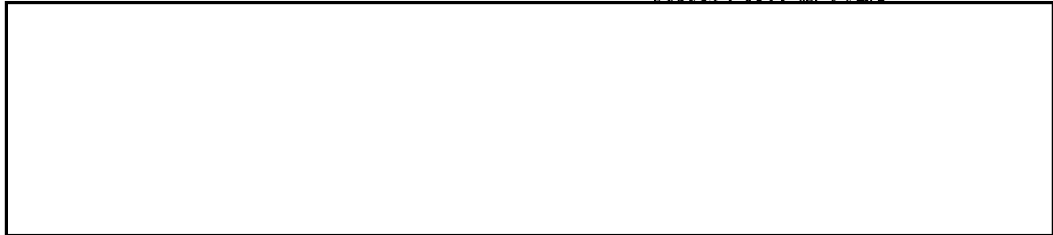
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operations could then be included as electives to be taken only as required following the two week program, or,

b. To suspend presentation of the course until such time as a substantial requirement is available, but to preserve the facilities both as to instructors and area so that the course can be offered within a reasonably short time when registration is again firm and adequate.

5. Should alternate "a" be adopted (an action recommended by this Office) FI will re-state its requirements for such training in light of the reduced program.

6. The position as outlined in this paper has been coordinated with and concurred in by the FI Staffs of the Area Divisions.



FI Training Officer

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